to such posts till they are empanelled. Such officers could however be continued in their own Cadres.

Cases of suicides by Defence Scientists

1357. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scientist has recently committed suicide in the Institute of Armament Technology, Pune;

(b) what weapon was used by the employee of ARDE, Pune and from where did he get that weapon; and

(c) what are the details of suicide committed by the employees of the Defence Research and Development organisation during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) A student in the Electronics Fellowship course of the Institute of Armament Technology, Pune committed suicide in February, 1986.

(b) As this death was in Institute of Armament Technology, Pune, ARDE was not involved at all.

(c) Detailed information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Moderation of marks obtained in competitive Exams held by UPSC

1358. SHRI ACHCHHEY LAL BALMIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that marks obtained by candidates in examination conducted by UPSC are subject to moderation after they have been evaluated by the respective authorisd examiners;

(b) whether there are any guidelines/instructions that are observed in the process of moderation, if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the results of the Civil Services Main Examinations conducted in the year 1984 and 1985 have been questioned through writs filed in the Delhi High Court and some other High Courts;

(d) whether Government propose to instruct UPSC to furnish to the examinees the details of marks obtained by them in a paper alongwith the marks assigned after moderation; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor and what other measures are contemplated to restore candidates faith in the impartiality of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Moderation, which is being practised by the Union Public Service Commission, is necessary to ensure uniformity of standards *inter-se* Examiners, wherever more than one Examiner is involved in the evaluation of a particular paper/subject. Further, in a Competitive Situation, where a common merit list is to be prepared and the candidates have the option of selection of subjects from a variety of heterogeneous subjects, it also becomes necessary to ensure a reasonable degree of uniformity *inter-se* subjects as well. According to available records with the UPSC since 1949, the Commission has been following a well established procedure of Statistical moderation wherever it is considered necessary after duly considering the report of the Head Examiner.

The procedure of moderation was challenged recently in the High Court of Gujarat at Ahmedabad in the case of Shri K. H. Goradia vs. the Union of India and others by a candidate for the Civil Services (Main) Examination, 1984. The Petition was